



WCC Individual Placement: Restoration Hatchery Technician

Position Description

The Restoration Hatchery Technician will serve with Puget Sound Restoration Fund (PSRF) at the Kenneth K. Chew Center for Shellfish Research and Restoration (Chew Center) that PSRF operates at NOAA's Manchester Research Station on the Kitsap Peninsula. Our team works to advance our mission of designing, testing, and spearheading in-water actions to restore Puget Sound's marine habitats, species, and waters – for people and place. In this position with PSRF, the technician will assist with all aspects of hatchery production and research on a variety of species native to Washington's marine waters. The focus of the WCC Individual Placement (IP) will be direct support of restoration and research programs for Olympia oysters (*Ostrea lurida*) and pinto abalone (*Haliotis kamtschatkana*). Responsibilities include animal husbandry, microalgae culture, data collection and management, facilities maintenance, and occasional fieldwork. More information on the Chew Center and the variety of projects the team has underway is available at <https://restorationfund.org/programs/hatchery/>.

Position Responsibilities

- Assist with all aspects of microalgae culture including monitoring cultures, preparing media, and sterilizing equipment/media for algal transfers, which involves handling chemicals and using an autoclave [50%]
- Provide support for husbandry [30%]
 - Maintain broodstock, larval, post-set, and juvenile culture systems daily for Olympia oysters (winter-spring) and pinto abalone (spring-fall)
 - Keep accurate records of larval, post-set and seed growth, survival, and culture conditions
 - Assist with induced spawns of multiple species
- Maintain facilities and operational systems [10%]
 - Regularly clean/repair/replace all components of water treatment system (filters, pumps, heaters, heat exchangers) and plumbing
 - Assist in construction of components of animal and microalgae culture systems
 - Maintain all equipment in good working condition
- Assist PSRF researchers and collaborators with data collection and management for PSRF projects and other related research. [5%]
- Provide support for fieldwork, which includes hiking on rocky beaches and mudflats and frequent heavy lifting. Fieldwork occurs year-round, in all weather conditions, at different times during the day and night to coincide with low tides. [5%]

Qualifications

- Must be 18-25 years old, with exceptions for those with military service or mental or sensory disabilities.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or Lawful Permanent U.S. Resident Alien
- Per legislative mandate, priority will be given to Washington state residents.
- A bachelor's degree in Biology, Environmental Science, or related field is desired. Applicants should have a strong interest in local marine ecosystems, environmental restoration and conservation, shellfish biology, sustainable aquaculture, and natural resources.
- Availability to care for live animals and perform algae culture tasks one weekend per month (on average).

Pay and Benefits

- Living allowance of \$1,406* twice a month (\$2,812 per month, before taxes)
**This reflects the 4% location-based elevated living allowance for positions based in King, Clark, Snohomish, and Kitsap Counties*
- AmeriCorps Education Award of \$6,895 (scholarship) upon successful completion of the 11-month contract (1,700 service hours).
- Educational loan forbearance from AmeriCorps on qualified loans.
- Health insurance offered by WCC. WCC pays the monthly insurance premium. Members are eligible for WCC-offered insurance on their first day of service.
- Access to the Member Assistance Program (MAP), which provides accessible and quality mental health services to AmeriCorps members.
- Access to the AmeriCorps Child Care Benefit Program for qualified full-time AmeriCorps State Members who need the benefit to serve.
- Three weeks of paid, professional training in addition to day-to-day training. Requires overnight travel.
- Up to three weeks of personal time off without a reduction in stipend

Schedule: This is an 11-month AmeriCorps position starting Oct. 2, 2023, and ending Sept. 5, 2024. Members generally serve 40 hours over four or five days each week.

Application

Submit an online application on the [WCC website](#) (select this IP position on the application). In addition to the application, please email a resume (or CV), cover letter, and 3 references to Jennifer Anstey at jenn@restorationfund.org by July 26, 2023.

About WCC and AmeriCorps

Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) is an AmeriCorps program that creates future leaders through community involvement and mentorship. The program supports more than 350 members and experienced staff statewide who restore critical habitat, build trails, lead volunteers, educate youth, and respond to local and national disasters. Learn more on the [WCC website](#).

AmeriCorps, a federal agency, brings people together to tackle the country's most pressing challenges, through national service and volunteering. AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to the improvement of communities. AmeriCorps helps make service to others a cornerstone of our national culture. Learn more at [AmeriCorps.gov](https://www.AmeriCorps.gov).
